

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

On page 7, replace the paragraph beginning at line 5 with the following:

An instrument made pursuant to the heuristic rules in accordance with the invention in one embodiment includes a liquid input opening, a first passage leading from the liquid input opening and operative to move liquid therealong by capillary action, a filter communicating between the first passage and a filtrate collection location to which the filtrate flows, again by capillary action, and an expanded liquid flow path for passing the liquid from the first liquid passage to a further location. The expanded liquid flow path preferably comprises a plurality of liquid flow paths connected to receive liquid flow in parallel from the first passage and sized to move the liquid therein by capillary action. In this flow network arrangement, the multiple parallel capillary action paths sustain the movement from the input location through the first passage in communication with the filter for a longer period of filtration and collection of a higher quantity of filtrate than if only the single, first passage were employed. As apparent here and from exemplary embodiments that follow the parallel nature of the flow paths of the expanded channel and of the flow therein that is important here is not that the flow paths are parallel in the geometric sense, but rather that they connect to the primary flow path from the liquid input location to cause concurrent capillary action flow, which is more like "parallel" current flow in the electrical circuit sense.